

Attorney Docket:

1892/47565 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: BUNICHI SHOJI

Serial No.: 09/245,720 Group Art Unit: 3635

Filed: FEBRUARY 08, 1999 Examiner: K. MCDERMOTT

Title: A TRUSS STRUCTURE, STRUCTURAL MEMBERS THEREOF, A

A METHOD OF MANUFACTURE THEREFOR

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

May 5, 2000

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 6, 2000, applicant provisionally elects Claims 1-5 and 8 with traverse.

Reconsideration is requested on grounds that the Patent and Trademark Office has not made a prima facie case of independence and/or distinctness to satisfy 35 U.S.C. §121. In particular, the Office Action does not explicate how the use of manual hammering of the ends constitutes a <u>materially</u> different process in a restriction sense.

The Office Action does not say anything at all about die Claim 6 or what the basis for restriction of that claim is in relation to either Group I or Claim 7.

Serial No. 09/245,720

Accordingly, reconsideration of the restriction requirement and an action upon the merits of all the claims in this application are earnestly solicited.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #1892/47565).

Respectfully submitted,

James F. McKeown

Registration No. 25,406

EVENSON, McKEOWN, EDWARDS
& LENAHAN, P.L.L.C.

1200 G Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005
Telephone No.: (202) 628-8800
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

JFM:sbh Enclosures



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